

Amendments to the Specification:

11-606 Please replace the paragraph appearing at page 3, lines ³13-19 with the following amended paragraph:

Accordingly, there is a need in industry ~~for a means~~ to permit paper documents to be converted into electronic format while also retaining the relevant index data information. Further, it is desirable that this electronic format ~~must~~ act as a standardized "container" for delivering information, such as documents, data and images via email, the Internet, on disk, or on CD, or in any other electronic form. The standardized container ideally would, among other functions, ~~must also be able to~~ reproduce a copy of the original document that was converted. This standardized container ~~must be able~~ would further be adaptable to easily adapt to a changing business environment where the source of the initial content may predominantly be paper documents to where as the industry shifts to more electronic content will still provide similar benefits. The standardized container ~~must~~ would also provide information about its contents, commonly known as "meta-data." This meta-data ~~must~~ would be provided in a ~~specific and consistent~~ manner that facilitates the development of browser applications as well as automation. Therefore, the standardized container ~~must~~ would support any spectrum of content and present ~~it that content~~ to a user or system in a ~~consistent~~ fashion ~~to that~~ promotes its use and automation. Further a system using this container would ~~need to~~ include delivery methods for supplying both customers and business partners with instant information that is needed. In other words, a delivery object that supports both ad hoc support requests for information as well as large volume transactions is needed.

Please replace the paragraph appearing at page 14, lines 1-9 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with one embodiment, the system of the present invention is XML